

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Office Action Rejections Summary

Claims 21, 22, 24, 25, 30, and 43-47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,286,118 of Churchill et al. ("Churchill").

Claims 23, 26-29 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Status of Claims

Claims 22-30 are pending in the application. Claims 22-27 and 30 have been amended. The amended claims are supported by the specification. No claims have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 21 and 43-47 have been canceled, without prejudice, in this amendment.

Claims 23, 26-29 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. It is submitted that claims 23, 26 and 27 have been written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 22, 24-25 and 28-30 depend from a respective one of the pending independent claims. Therefore, claims 22-30 are in condition for allowance.

In conclusion, applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments set forth herein, the applicable objections have been overcome.

If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.